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TENDS TO HASTEN END OF THE WAR

President Thinks Good Will Come Of Peace Gossip

Kaiser Ready To State Terms First Day Of Conference

Washington, Dec. 28.—In spite of the wide gulf between the insistence of the central powers for an immediate peace conference and the forecast of a unanimous refusal by the entente allies to enter such a conference without knowing Germany's terms in advance, the American government believes that the negotiations in progress are resulting in good. It was said with authority that until the door to peace actually is closed by one side of the other, President Wilson will continue to hope that any discussion of the subject will tend to hasten the end of the war.

Count Von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, authorized the following statement: "I regard the note of my government as constituting an acceptance of everything suggested by President Wilson in his note to the belligerent nations of Europe."

It was made clear at the embassy that Germany stands ready to make known her terms on the first day of any conference that may be held, and officials expressed themselves as being greatly surprised at the view prevailing in some quarters here that the Berlin government had failed to meet the president's suggestions by not setting down in the reply the terms upon which it is willing to make peace. The German diplomats say President Wilson had no intention of drawing a public declaration concerning terms from the central powers. On the contrary, they think the president's suggestion "that an early session be sought to call on from all the nations now at war such an avowal of their respective views as to the terms upon which the war

might be concluded," has been fully met by Germany in seeking an immediate conference with her enemies.

German Policy Outlined.

The German policy upon which the reply to President Wilson's communication is based, was outlined as follows: "Germany feels that the conference suggested by it first should be composed of delegates from the belligerent countries, whose duty it would be to settle territorial terms."

"If the terms are agreed upon the representatives of these neutrals should be called in to participate in the question of guarantees for the future, in which neutrals are as vitally concerned as belligerents. These guarantees, in the German view, necessarily would have to do with the freedom of the seas, limited disarmament, formation of a world league of nations to enforce world peace and the establishment of a court of arbitration."

Germany is said to consider that neutral nations can have no interest of their own in terms such as those relating to territory.

While there were no official advisers upon the subject, the view still persists in German quarters that the note of the central powers might be followed by some highly confidential oral or written communication to President Wilson, in which at least broad tentative terms might be indicated.

It is certain officials noted with interest Berlin press dispatches saying that Ambassador Gerard, who as a result of his recent visit to the United States is thoroughly familiar with the views of Alfred Zimmermann, the German foreign minister, and probably discussed the peace situation with him.

Entente Reply Ready.

London, Dec. 28.—England and France have fully agreed upon the terms of the reply to be made to the peace proposals of the Teutonic allies. It is learned. It is hoped here that the answer may be dispatched by the end of this week, but other nations of the entente, although agreed in principle, may require verbal alteration, which would necessitate further delay.

DIED AT DINING TABLE

Dayton, O., Dec. 28.—When a diner in the Davis restaurant shook John Polly, forty-eight, of Franklin, O., because he was thought to be asleep in a chair, Polly made no move. It was found that he had died of heart trouble.

FATALLY BURNED

Cleveland, Dec. 28.—Samuel, twelve; Morris, nine, and Harry, six, sons of John Madiku, were probably fatally burned when they threw powder-filled fuses into a bonfire. Madiku believes his children secured the powder at a nearby stone quarry.

"IT'S THE BLOOMIN' MUD WOT HINDERS US," SAYS TOMMY, STUCK "SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE"



BRITISH TRACTOR BOGGED "SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE"

"It ain't the bloomin' Germans wot's preventin' us from going forward," said a British private to an American correspondent, "it's the blasted sticky mud." And his uncomplimentary opinion of the mud is shared by the Germans, although they do not agree, of course, that it is the only thing that stands in the way of a British advance. The mud is a hindrance to the movement of supplies, guns, etc., as well as of men, as is evidenced by the picture reproduced herewith of a British army tractor stuck in the mud "somewhere in France."

SCIENTISTS APPROVE DAYLIGHT SAVING PLAN

New York, Dec. 28.—Adoption of the metric system of weights and measures in the United States and the daylight saving plan were advocated by speakers in different sections of the convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. An unusual opportunity is afforded at present to make the metric system an American as well as an international language of commerce, asserted Geo. F. Kunz, president of the New York Academy of Science. The demand for war material, he added, has forced the introduction of the metric system in many factories. A permanent organization to urge the adoption of the metric system was suggested.

Urging the merits of the daylight saving plan, Marcus M. Marks, president of Manhattan borough, said it would give more time for recreation.

Improve the public health and that it was estimated it would save \$75,000,000 in fighting bills during the summer months.

Predict Higher Meat Prices.
Columbus, Dec. 28.—Price boosts of 10 per cent inside a month on pork and beef are predicted by the state board of administration, which has just paid 11 cents a pound for 1,000,000 pounds of beef and 14 1/2 cents for 250,000 pounds of pork. The meat is for the inmates of state institutions.

Friend of Secretary Baker.
Washington, Dec. 28.—D. C. West, an aviator of Cleveland, lawyer and personal friend of Secretary of War Baker, has been formally recommended by Attorney General Gregory for appointment as federal judge at Cleveland.

LOCATIONS ARE MADE OF FARM LOAN BANKS

Washington, Dec. 28.—The federal farm loan board announced the following cities in which farm loan banks will be located: Springfield, Mass.; Baltimore, Md.; Columbia, S. C.; Louisville, Ky.; New Orleans, La.; St. Louis, Mo.; St. Paul, Minn.; Omaha, Neb.; Wichita, Kas.; Houston, Tex.; Berkeley, Cal.; and Spokane, Wash.

One hundred and forty contesting cities were disappointed. Several cities, including Columbus, had made bids for the bank of the fourth farm loan district, comprising Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky and Tennessee.

Got Hold of Wrong Can.
Napoleon, O., Dec. 28.—W. H. McKee, hardware merchant of Hamlet, was seriously burned on the head and hands at his home when he started a fire in the kitchen range with gasoline.

IN CHARGE OF GOVERNMENT

Bowling Green, O., Dec. 28.—The First National bank of this city, whose cashier, Burton C. Harding, died from poison last Thursday, is completely in the hands of the federal government. When it will be reopened for business is not known. The bank, regarded for years as one of the finest in Wood county, has deposits of over \$900,000.

REBEKAH'S OFFICERS

Alliance, O., Dec. 28.—The result of the recent balloting for officers of the state Rebekah assembly was announced as follows: President, Mrs. Mattie L. Anders, Columbus; vice president, Miss M. Jeannette Haley, Alliance; warden, Josephine Short, West Liberty; secretary, Emma M. Bell, Columbus; treasurer, Cora Rife, Toledo.

MURDERER GETS LIFE

Cincinnati, Dec. 28.—Judge Cushing sentenced to life imprisonment "without hope of pardon," Harry Toker, twenty-seven, who shot and killed Mrs. Nannie Beatty, mission worker and benefactor of Toker, May 20 last. "The only reason I would like to see you have a new trial," said Judge Cushing in passing sentence, is that the jury which found you guilty, has not dealt severely enough with you."

OHIO HAPPENINGS

Wets to Carry Case Up.
Sandusky, O., Dec. 28.—That Perkins township, which was recorded as having returned a wet majority of eighteen following the local option election held last Friday, returned a dry majority of twenty, was the finding of Foster Green, township clerk, following his official canvass of the vote. If Green's decision stands the wets promise to carry the case into court and demand a recount of the ballots.

Governor Resents Term.
Columbus, Dec. 28.—Governor Willis and former Adjutant General Hough resented the term, "mollycoddles," which army officers in Washington are reported to have applied to the Eighth Ohio regiment, several hundred of whose members recently signed a round robin protest against conditions at the border. "It is merely another phase of the attack of the regular army men upon the state militia," said Hough.

Change Name of Association.
Columbus, Dec. 28.—The county and district superintendents' department of the Ohio State Teachers' association voted to change its name to the Rural and Village Superintendents' association. The organization elected County Superintendent John Schwartz of Butler county president and District Superintendent Murphy of Belmont county secretary.

Dayton Papers Cost More.
Dayton, O., Dec. 28.—Increase in the cost of white paper and other things entering into the making of a newspaper are given as the cause of increase in price of the Daily News, Governor Cox's paper here, the Evening Herald and the Morning Journal to two cents a copy.

May Lose Legs.
Tiffin, O., Dec. 28.—Earl Hoover fell asleep in front of the kitchen stove at his home at West Lodi. Sparks set fire to his clothing and he was so badly burned that he may lose his legs.

NET OF TEUTONS DRAWN TIGHTER

Roumania's Grain and Oil Center Is Menaced.

PRISONERS AND GUNS TAKEN

Artillery Duels, Snapping Operations and Attacks by Patrol Parties Feature Fighting on the French Front. Sporadic Battles Along the Fighting Line in Russia and Galicia—Review of Operations Elsewhere.

London, Dec. 28.—The net of the Teutonic allies apparently is fast closing in upon Braila, Roumania's oil and grain center on the Danube. Having taken Filipești, thirty miles to the southwest, Field Marshal Von Mackensen's troops have now captured the railroad town of Rimnik-Sarat, relatively the same distance to the east, while the guns of the Dobruja army are still hammering at the Russo-Roumanians at the bridgehead of Matchin, on the east bank of the Danube, opposite Braila.

Prior to the fall of Rimnik-Sarat, the Teutonic allies defeated the Russians on a front of ten and one-half miles southwest of the town, while the Teutonic Danube army captured several fortified villages, according to the Berlin war office. Petrograd admits that the Russians and Roumanians have been forced to fall back north of Megura, but says elsewhere the invaders were defeated with heavy casualties.

Since Dec. 22, says Berlin, more than 3,500 prisoners and twenty-seven machine guns have been captured in Roumania.

Artillery duels, snapping operations and attacks by small patrol parties featured fighting on the front in France. There have been sporadic battles at several points along the line in Russia and Galicia from Volynia to the Carpathians, but no important results have been attained by either side.

The usual bombardment is in progress in the Austro-Italian theater. In Macedonia comparative quiet prevails. The demobilization of the Greek army, in accordance with Greece's promises to the entente allies, is being carried out, according to information received at the British foreign office.

Ohio Soldier Dead.
El Paso, Tex., Dec. 28.—Private Evan Penry, of Company D, Fourth Ohio Infantry, died at Fort Bliss of pneumonia. His father is Harvey Penry, of Prospect, O.

LIVE STOCK AND GRAIN

EAST BUFFALO, Dec. 28.
Cattle—Shipping steers, \$5.00 to \$5.25; butchers, \$5.25 to \$5.50; cows, \$4.00 to \$4.50; bulls, \$3.50 to \$4.00; calves, \$3.00 to \$3.50; mixed, \$2.50 to \$3.00; hogs, \$4.00 to \$4.50; pigs, \$3.50 to \$4.00; sheep, \$3.00 to \$3.50; lambs, \$2.50 to \$3.00; chickens, \$1.00 to \$1.50; turkeys, \$1.50 to \$2.00; geese, \$1.00 to \$1.50; ducks, \$1.00 to \$1.50; corn, \$1.00 to \$1.25; wheat, \$1.25 to \$1.50; oats, \$1.00 to \$1.25; hay, \$1.00 to \$1.25; straw, \$1.00 to \$1.25.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 28.
Cattle—Choice fat steers, \$5.00 to \$5.25; butchers, \$4.50 to \$5.00; cows, \$4.00 to \$4.50; bulls, \$3.50 to \$4.00; calves, \$3.00 to \$3.50; mixed, \$2.50 to \$3.00; hogs, \$4.00 to \$4.50; pigs, \$3.50 to \$4.00; sheep, \$3.00 to \$3.50; lambs, \$2.50 to \$3.00; chickens, \$1.00 to \$1.50; turkeys, \$1.50 to \$2.00; geese, \$1.00 to \$1.50; ducks, \$1.00 to \$1.50; corn, \$1.00 to \$1.25; wheat, \$1.25 to \$1.50; oats, \$1.00 to \$1.25; hay, \$1.00 to \$1.25; straw, \$1.00 to \$1.25.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 28.
Cattle—Choice fat steers, \$5.00 to \$5.25; butchers, \$4.50 to \$5.00; cows, \$4.00 to \$4.50; bulls, \$3.50 to \$4.00; calves, \$3.00 to \$3.50; mixed, \$2.50 to \$3.00; hogs, \$4.00 to \$4.50; pigs, \$3.50 to \$4.00; sheep, \$3.00 to \$3.50; lambs, \$2.50 to \$3.00; chickens, \$1.00 to \$1.50; turkeys, \$1.50 to \$2.00; geese, \$1.00 to \$1.50; ducks, \$1.00 to \$1.50; corn, \$1.00 to \$1.25; wheat, \$1.25 to \$1.50; oats, \$1.00 to \$1.25; hay, \$1.00 to \$1.25; straw, \$1.00 to \$1.25.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 28.
Cattle—Steers, \$5.00 to \$5.25; butchers, \$4.50 to \$5.00; cows, \$4.00 to \$4.50; bulls, \$3.50 to \$4.00; calves, \$3.00 to \$3.50; mixed, \$2.50 to \$3.00; hogs, \$4.00 to \$4.50; pigs, \$3.50 to \$4.00; sheep, \$3.00 to \$3.50; lambs, \$2.50 to \$3.00; chickens, \$1.00 to \$1.50; turkeys, \$1.50 to \$2.00; geese, \$1.00 to \$1.50; ducks, \$1.00 to \$1.50; corn, \$1.00 to \$1.25; wheat, \$1.25 to \$1.50; oats, \$1.00 to \$1.25; hay, \$1.00 to \$1.25; straw, \$1.00 to \$1.25.

TOLEDO, Dec. 28.
Wheat, \$1.25 to \$1.50; corn, \$1.00 to \$1.25; oats, \$1.00 to \$1.25; hay, \$1.00 to \$1.25; straw, \$1.00 to \$1.25.

BOTH MAY FIGHT PLAN

Not In Full Accord With The President

Railroad Heads and Employees Again Confer.

CONFIDENT OF AGREEMENT

Seek Mutual Understanding of a Practical Interpretation of Adamson Act. After Agreeing on as Many Points as Possible Conference Will Take Their Differences to the Goethals Commission for Adjustment.

New York, Dec. 28.—The national conference committee of railways and the four brotherhoods of railroad employees resumed their meetings here today for the announced purpose of arriving at some agreement as to the application of the Adamson law in the event it is held to be constitutional by the United States supreme court.

The meetings had been adjourned to await the handing down of the award in the case of the switchmen's arbitration, which, it was expected, might have some bearing upon the eventual interpretation of the Adamson act.

It was intimated in railroad circles that among other things which would be considered was an agreement that would bring the two forces together in a concerted effort to fight the president's proposed compulsory arbitration legislation.

The railroads, however, are not altogether opposed to the principle of compulsory arbitration. It was indicated, provided a suitable plan can be evolved looking toward the selection of the arbitrators.

Both sides are confident that a mutual understanding will be reached, as to the practical interpretation of the Adamson act, which, it is pointed out, specifies the hours of labor but does not make provisions for the enforcement or continuation of certain privileges and rates of compensation which the men now enjoy, and which they believe are threatened by the Adamson act.

Rather than make separate appeals to the courts to decide the many points that could be brought to issue in this regard, it was stated that both sides, after agreeing on as many points as possible, would consent to bring their differences for final adjudication to the Goethals commission, appointed by the president to observe the operation of the Adamson act.

President Wilson's Birthday.
Washington, Dec. 28.—President Wilson is celebrating his sixtieth birthday today. Congratulations are arriving at the White House.

RIOTER SENTENCED

Lima, O., Dec. 28.—Edward Hall, twenty-one, was sentenced to an indeterminate term in Mansfield reformatory for participation in riots Aug. 30, when an attempt was made to lynch Sheriff Eley because he refused to give over to a mob a negro who had assaulted a farmer's wife.

VETERAN DROPS DEAD

Marysville, O., Dec. 28.—James Mesick, sixty-nine, a veteran of the civil war, fell dead at his home in Mechanicburg. He was the father of Professor Joseph Mesick, deceased, who was instructor in Latin at Ohio Wesleyan university, whose death occurred a short time ago.